



BATMAN:
DARK PATTERNS

13+
TEEN 6

BATMAN

DARK PATTERNS



HS
24

WATTERS
SHERMAN
FARRELL

THE VOICE OF THE TOWER PART THREE

ALL IN



ABSOLUTE

Wonder Woman #8

**HER MOTHER TRAINED
HER FOR BATTLE...**

**...BUT
NOTHING
COULD
PREPARE
HER FOR
THIS.**

**DIANA ENTERS THE LABYRINTH
AS A NEW ARC BEGINS!**

Written by **KELLY THOMPSON** • Art by **HAYDEN SHERMAN**

MAY



RICKSON...AND THE
HOSTAGE!

SHE WAS
THE ONLY THING
KEEPING THE COPS
FROM COMIN' INTO
SCARFACE
TOWERS!



AND YOU
WEREN'T HERE TO
STOP THE GATMAN
GETTING TO THEM
**GO! AND
ESCAPING!**

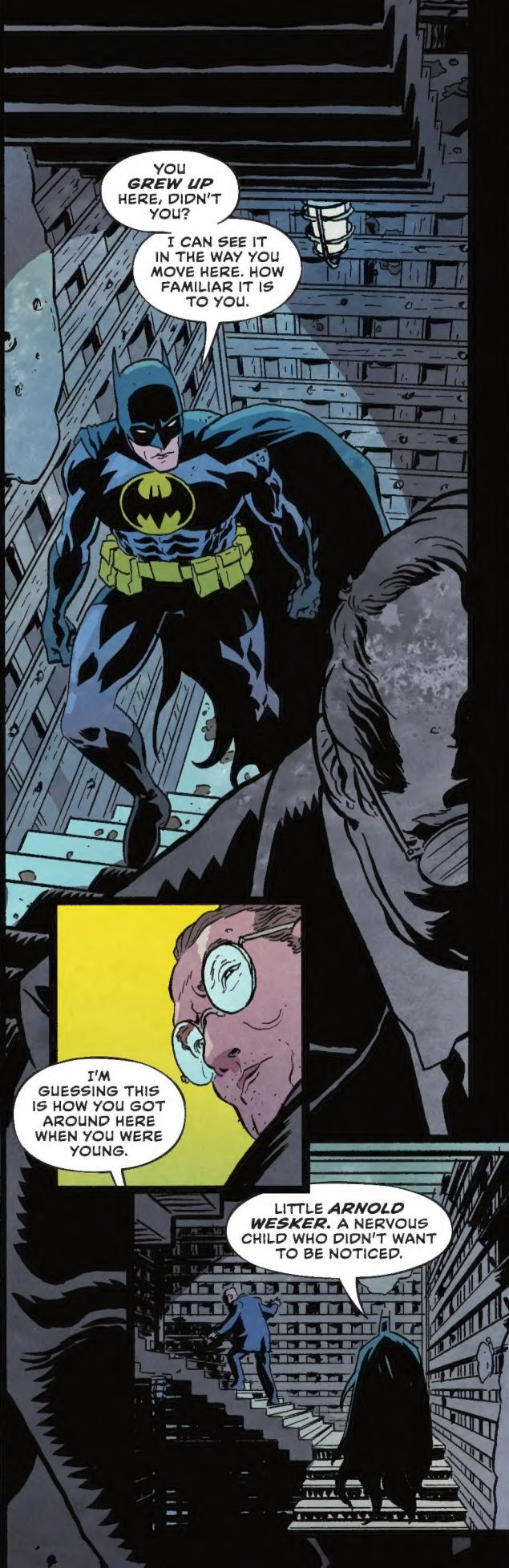






Hnn. AN
OLD SERVICE
STAIRWELL.

THIS
COULD HAVE
BEEN USEFUL
EARLIER.



YOU
GREW UP
HERE, DIDN'T
YOU?

I CAN SEE IT
IN THE WAY YOU
MOVE HERE. HOW
FAMILIAR IT IS
TO YOU.



I'M
GUESSING THIS
IS HOW YOU GOT
AROUND HERE
WHEN YOU WERE
YOUNG.

LITTLE **ARNOLD
WESKER**. A NERVOUS
CHILD WHO DIDN'T WANT
TO BE NOTICED.



A dramatic comic book panel showing Batman in his blue and grey suit with a yellow utility belt, flying through a severely damaged, multi-story building. Debris is flying everywhere. In the background, a man in a blue suit is seen falling through a large opening in the wall. The scene is set at night, with city lights visible in the distance.

ABLE
TO SEE INTO
PEOPLE'S LIVES,
BUT NOT BE SEEN.
SHIELDED BY
THE WALLS.

LATER, YOU
DEVELOPED THE
SCARFACE
PERSONA.

SOMETHING
ELSE TO HIDE BEHIND--
THAT LET YOU TAKE OUT
YOUR FRUSTRATIONS
ON THE WORLD.

AFTER YOU
WERE RELEASED
FROM PRISON, YOU
CAME BACK
HERE...

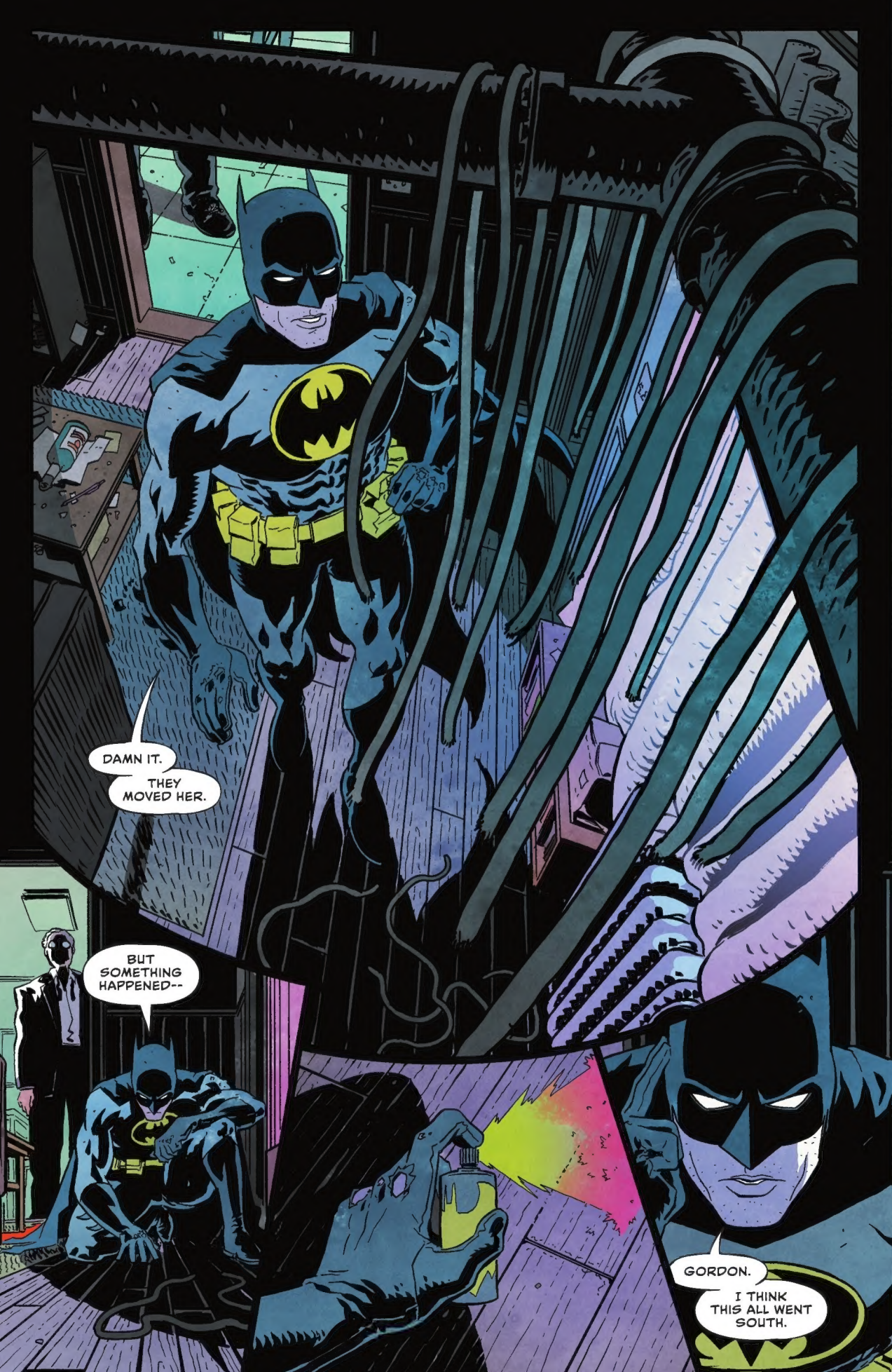
...AND
SOMEONE TOOK
SCARFACE
FROM YOU.

"SOMEONE WHO
THINKS **BIGGER**
THAN YOU.

THE SAME
PERSON WHO
CUT OUT YOUR
TONGUE.

"...SO SHOW ME
WHERE THEY'VE
TAKEN THE
POLICE OFFICER."





DAMN IT.

THEY
MOVED HER.

BUT
SOMETHING
HAPPENED--

GORDON.

I THINK
THIS ALL WENT
SOUTH.



OFFICER
PRYCE?

THEY'VE
MOVED HER.
BUT WHERE THEY
WERE KEEPING HER...
THERE'S BLOOD
RESIDUE.

A LOT
OF IT.



COULD BE FROM
MORE THAN ONE
PERSON. HARD TO
TELL. IT'S BEEN
SCRUBBED.

BUT IT
PROBABLY MEANS
PRYCE IS DEAD.
DAMMIT.

ON THE
SLIM CHANCE
SHE ISN'T, SHE'S
ON BORROWED
TIME.

THEN
THERE'S NO
MORE TIME TO BE
DAINTY ABOUT
THIS.



WE'RE
COMING
IN.



WESKER?

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

Oh.

YOUR
TONGUE. THEY
PACKED IT IN ICE
AFTER THE FACT, SO
THE TISSUE DIDN'T
DIE. SO IT CAN BE
REATTACHED.

MEANING
THIS IS
SOMEONE
WHO CARES
ABOUT YOU
SOMEHOW...

"...WHO IS SHE?"

WHAT--
WHAT ARE YOU
ALL DOING?

DID YOU FIND
THE BATMAN YET,
LIKE SCARFACE
SAID TO?

WE'RE **GIVING UP**,
MRS. RICKSON.

WHEN THE
COPS REALIZE THE
HOSTAGE IS DEAD,
THERE'S NOTHING TO
STOP THEM COMING
IN. YOU KNOW WHAT
THEY'LL DO TO
US ALL.

WHAT
COPS ALWAYS
DO TO PEOPLE
LIKE US.

Y-Y-YOU CAN'T
GIVE UP NOW! THEY'LL
DEMOLISH OUR
HOMES.

THEY'LL TAKE
AWAY THE VOICES
OF THE TOWER AND
WE'LL NEVER HEAR
THEM AGAIN.

ALL THE
PEOPLE WHO LIVED
HERE--IT'S LIKE
MURDER.

THREE
PEOPLE ARE
DEAD. BATMAN'S
BEATING THE %\$*%
OUT OF US.

I WANTED TO
KEEP MY APARTMENT.
NOW I JUST WANT TO
SURVIVE THE NIGHT.

YOU
THINK YOU CAN
GETRAY ME,
YOU GUMS?!

WE'RE
NOT
GIVING
UP MY
GODY!?



OR WHAT,
SCARFACE?

WITH RICKSON
GONE, WHAT CAN
YOU ACTUALLY DO
TO PROTECT US?
TO THREATEN
US?



YOU'RE
JUST A
VOICE!

I'M NOT
EVEN CERTAIN
YOU'RE REAL
ANYMORE.



HE'S
REAL.

HOW DARE
YOU? HE'S
REAL!



WHOA,
WHOA,
MICHELLE.



I'M SORRY.
IT'S OVER.

IT IS. IT IS,
ISN'T IT?

THIS IS
THE APARTMENT
OF A MARRIED COUPLE.
BUT IT ISN'T DECORATED
THE WAY THIS KIND OF
MAN DECORATES.

THE
FURNITURE IS OLD,
BUT WELL CARED
FOR. SENTIMENTAL.
INHERITED.

HER FAMILY
HAD OWNED THIS
APARTMENT FOR
AT LEAST TWO
GENERATIONS.

SO IT
WAS *HERS*
FIRST. THEN HE
MOVED IN.

HE
TOOK
OVER.

NOT A KIND
MAN. PROBABY A
CRUEL ONE.

HE BERATED
HER. SCREAMED
AT HER.

AND YOU
SAW AND HEARD
IT THROUGH THE
WALLS, DIDN'T
YOU, ARNOLD?

SHE WAS
SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
PUSHED AROUND.
UNABLE TO PROTECT
HERSELF.

YOU KNEW
SCARFACE COULD
PROTECT HER.

"YOU TAUGHT HER
HOW IT WORKED.

"THE SKILLS OF THE
VENTRILOQUIST.

"AND SHE'S
TALENTED.
PROBABLY
BETTER
THAN YOU.

"YOU HATCHED A
PLAN TOGETHER. TO
PROVE SCARFACE
WAS REAL.

"THE HUSBAND
PROBABLY THOUGHT
THE DOLL WAS A
PRANK AT FIRST.

"BUT YOU
HAVE YOUR
WAYS OF BEING
PERSUASIVE."





"THAT'S WHEN SCARFACE STARTED TALKING TO HIM."

"YOU THOUGHT SHE'D USE SCARFACE TO IMPROVE HER LIFE. TO STOP THAT MAN PUSHING HER AROUND."

"BUT SHE USED HIM TO TAKE OVER THE WHOLE BUILDING."

"SHE USED HIM TO HATCH A PLAN AGAINST THOSE WHO'D TAKE HER HOME AWAY FROM HER."

"THEN, WHEN THE FIRST COP DIED, YOU BEGGED HER TO RUN AWAY WITH YOU. TO GET OUT OF HERE."

"AT WHICH POINT, **YOU** BECAME THE ONE TRYING TO TAKE HER HOME AWAY."

"YOU'VE UNLEASHED SOMETHING IN THIS POOR WOMAN..."

"...AND IT'S OUT
OF CONTROL."

THAT'S IT,
SWEETHEART.

REMEMBER
WHAT THE
MAN IN THE HAT
PROMISED.

HOW TO FREE
THE *VOICES OF
THE TOWER* IF
ALL ELSE FAILS.

RELEASE
THEM IN THE
SMOKE.

SMOKE!

COMMISSIONER,
WE'VE GOT A
FIRE.

RESPIRATORS!

THIS
JUST BECAME
AN *EVACUATION
SITUATION*,
PEOPLE!



There is another
fire tonight in
Gotham City.

The architecture
of Bledin Towers
acts like a wind
tunnel, whipping
the flame through
the structure.

And within
minutes, the
complex is a
din of yelling
and roaring.

Help me!
Why won't
you help
me!

THE
SINK. IT'S
LOOSE.



TAKE
A LEFT!

THE
STAIRWELL!

OFFICER
PRYCE?

I'VE GOT
YOU.





WHAT
ARE YOU
LOOKING
AT?





MICHELLE RICKSON HASN'T BEEN IDENTIFIED AMONG THE BODIES.

NOT YET.



FIRE WAS NEVER SCARFACE'S M.O. WHY WOULD SHE BURN THE BUILDING?

MAYBE SHE SAW NO OTHER WAY OUT.

GOTHAM WILL DO THAT TO PEOPLE.



OFFICER PRYCE?

RECOVERING.

LOOKS LIKE EVEN WESKER WILL TALK AGAIN, FOR BETTER OR WORSE.



LUCKY. WE GOT LUCKY.

PRYCE SAID THERE WAS A VOICE.

SHE SAID A VOICE LED HER TO YOU DOWN THE TWISTED HALLWAYS OF THAT GODFORSAKEN PLACE.

SHE SAID IT WAS PETERSON'S VOICE. HER PARTNER'S.

WHO'S BEEN LYING HERE ON THIS SLAB SINCE LAST NIGHT.

ANOTHER GHOSTLY VOICE OF BLEEDIN' TOWERS, PERHAPS.

AUDITORY HALLUCINATIONS ARE A POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECT OF CARBON MONOXIDE INHALATION.

YES. THAT'S ALL IT WAS.

"THAT'S ALL IT COULD HAVE BEEN."

DC COMICS PRESENTS BATMAN: DARK PATTERNS THE VOICE OF THE TOWER PART 3

DAN
WATTERS
Writer

HAYDEN
SHERMAN
Artist

TRÍONA
FARRELL
Colorist

FRANK
CVETKOVIC
Letterer

ARIANNA
TURTURRO
Editor

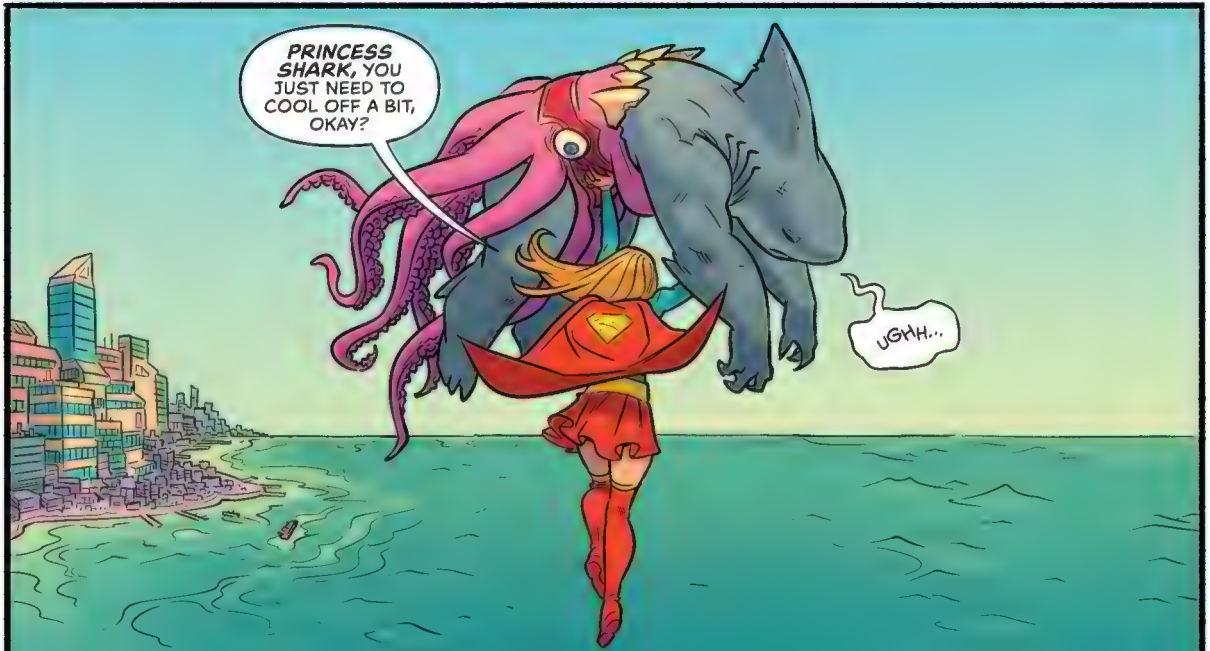
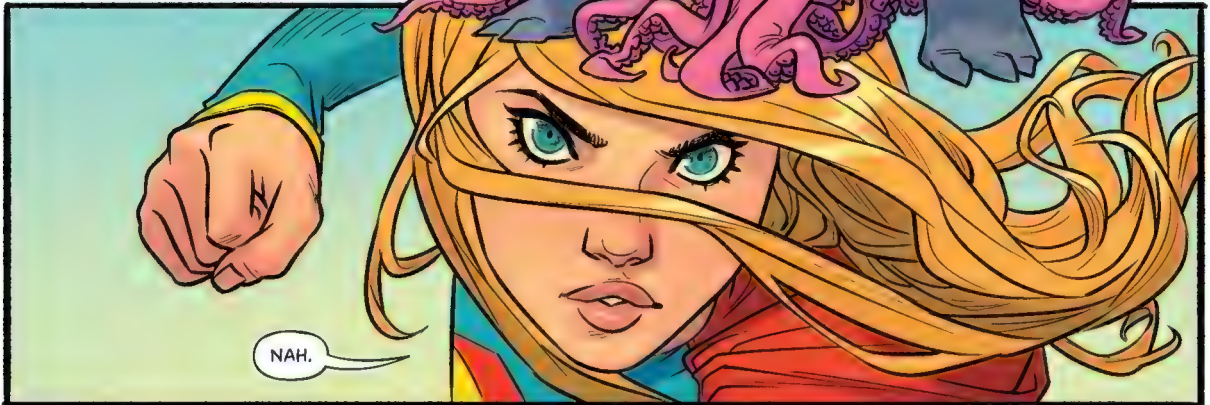
ROB
LEVIN
Group Editor

HAYDEN SHERMAN
Cover Artist

ASHLEY WOOD
Variant Cover Artist

Batman created by
BOB KANE with BILL FINGER

NEXT: PAREIDOLIA



KARA ZOR-EL IS THE LAST SURVIVOR OF KRYPTON'S ARGO CITY IN HIS FINAL ACT. HER FATHER BUILT A ROCKET TO SEND HIS TEENAGE DAUGHTER INTO OUTER SPACE AFTER HER BABY COUSIN, KAL-EL. LITTLE DID SHE KNOW SHE WOULD ARRIVE ON EARTH AND BE REUNITED WITH HIM AS AN ADULT CALLING HIMSELF SUPERMAN.

OVER THE YEARS, KARA LEARNED TO ADJUST TO HER NEW LIFE AND POWERS, LIVING IN THE TOWN OF MIDVALE WITH HER ADOPTIVE PARENTS, ELIZA AND JEREMIAH DANVERS. ALONG WITH HER ANIMAL FRIENDS STREAKY THE SUPERCAT AND KRYPTO THE SUPERDOG, SHE EMBARKED ON A CRUSADE FOR JUSTICE AND TRUTH AS **SUPergirl**. HER DARING ADVENTURES HAVE BROUGHT HER TO THE FARTHEST REACHES OF THE GALAXY, BUT NOW SHE'S BACK ON EARTH LOOKING FOR THE NEXT ONE

CURSE YOU, SUPergirl!

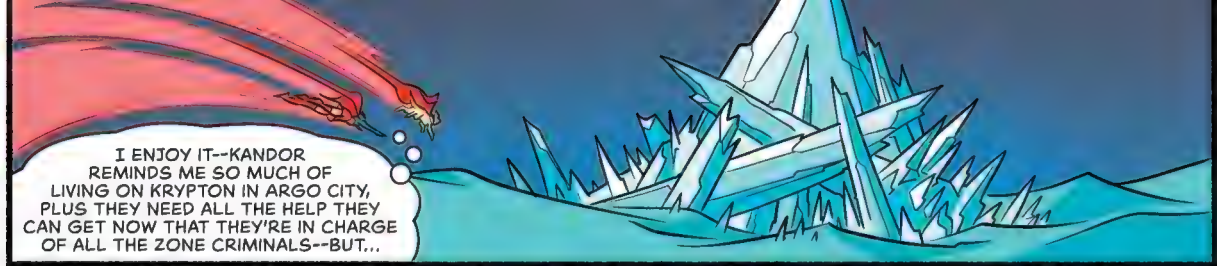
COME ON, **KRYPTO**, LET'S GO GET ALL THOSE POOR SHARKS BACK TO THE OCEAN...

...BEFORE WE HEAD TO THE **FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE** FOR MY DAILY **KANDOR** PATROL.

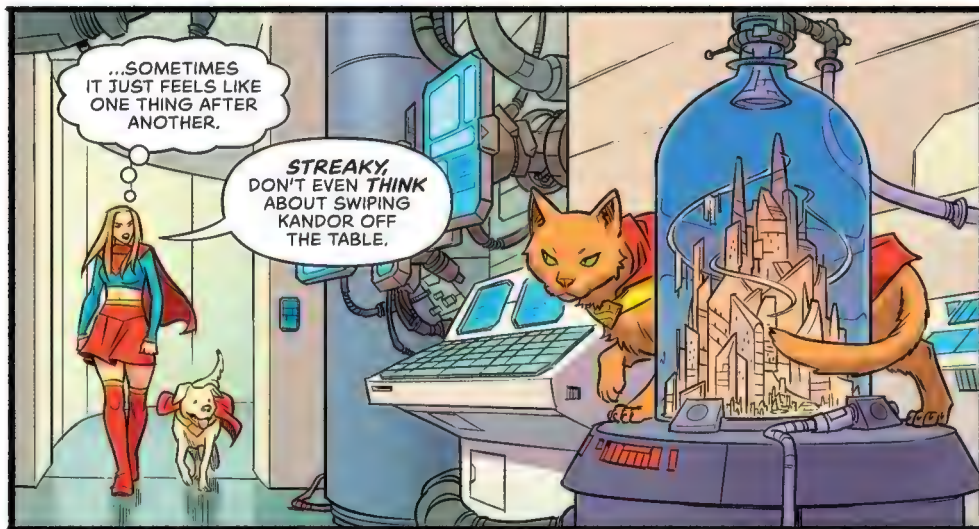
WOOF!

EVER SINCE KAL WAS EXILED FROM **KANDOR** FOR THE **PHANTOM ZONE** INCIDENT, I'VE REALLY HAD TO PICK UP THE SLACK THERE.





I ENJOY IT--KANDOR REMINDS ME SO MUCH OF LIVING ON KRYPTON IN ARGO CITY, PLUS THEY NEED ALL THE HELP THEY CAN GET NOW THAT THEY'RE IN CHARGE OF ALL THE ZONE CRIMINALS--BUT...



...SOMETIMES IT JUST FEELS LIKE ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER.

STREAKY,
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT SWIPING KANDOR OFF THE TABLE.



CAN'T FORGET MY **YELLOW RING OF NOR-KANN** SO I DON'T LOSE MY POWERS INSIDE...



BE BACK SOON, YOU TWO. SIT TIGHT. NO FIGHTING.



BARF, GOING THROUGH THE **MICROWAVE MINIATURIZATION TUNNEL** ALWAYS MAKES ME A LITTLE QUEASY.

UH-OH, A RUNAWAY TRAIN--!



I GOT THIS, EVERYONE! STAND CLEAR!



ESSENTIAL COMICS STORIES BROUGHT TO LIFE AS
A WEEKLY PODCAST



HIGH VOL. BATMAN



© & TM DC.



LISTEN EVERY WEDNESDAY



NATION

SPOTLIGHT ON

ALL IN

SUPERMAN UNLIMITED

INTERVIEW WITH DAN SLOTT

After two decades away from DC, superstar writer Dan Slott is back in a very big way—teaming with Eisner Award-winning artist Rafael Albuquerque for *Superman Unlimited*, a new ongoing series debuting in May that will be the primary venue for the Man of Steel's adventures in the present day.

What makes *Superman Unlimited* distinct from the other current Superman comics?

There's a certain movie coming out around the corner. [Laughs] This book is going to come out around the exact same time. If you are interested in seeing a whole new age of Superman, here is a brand-new book. This is a jumping-on point for any reader at any time, and something is going to happen in the first issue that is so...meteoric that it's going to affect the entire Superman line.



You definitely have a history with writing some of pop culture's most iconic superheroes, let's say. What has it been like taking on Superman?

When I've taught classes, kids ask the question, "Where do you get your ideas from?" The answer I tell them is, "You're always having ideas." What a good writer does is write them down, because if you don't, you will forget them. When it's time to write, you open up that notebook, and you've got all the ideas you've been having forever.

I grew up loving Superman. Whenever I had a Superman idea, I'd write it down and say, "That's going in the Superman pile, and someday we'll get to that story."



How are you enjoying collaborating with Rafael Albuquerque?

I'm getting married in the near future. My wallpaper on my phone has been my fiancée for the longest time. We got this sketch in of how our Superman is going to look, and I made that my wallpaper. [Laughs] It's amazing working with Rafael. This book's going to look great.

Which supporting cast members are you digging into in *Superman Unlimited*?

I get to play with Superman, I get to play with Ma and Pa Kent, Krypto's going to show up, I get to play with the *Daily Planet* supporting cast—you get to see Lois as the editor-in-chief, but we're going to expand her role. You're going to get to see Tee-Nah, Solovar's goddaughter from Gorilla City, who's our new IT specialist for the *Daily Planet*. Jimmy is going to a new city—he will commute to Metropolis, but I can't wait for people to see where he ends up.

Anything you can tease about which villains will show up?

If I tell you the name, you'll be like, "You're bringing back that Superman villain?" But when you see what we do, and how messed up it is, you'll be like, "That is now one of my favorite Superman villains of all time." I can't wait for that.



**DON'T MISS
SUPERMAN
UNLIMITED #1,
ON SALE IN MAY!**

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS VP - Editor-in-Chief JIM LEE President, Publisher & Chief Creative Officer ANNE DePIES Senior VP & General Manager LARRY BERRY VP - Brand Design & Creative Services BRIAR DARDEN VP - Business Affairs LAWRENCE GANEM VP - Editorial Programming & Talent Strategy JAY KOGAN Senior VP - Legal NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP - Manufacturing, Operations & Collected Editions NANCY SPEARS VP - Sales & Marketing CARRIE WILLIAMS Executive Director - Publicity & Communications

BATMAN: DARK PATTERNS 6, July, 2025. Published monthly by DC Comics, 4000 Warner Blvd., Bldg. 700, 2nd Floor, Burbank, CA 91522. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2025 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dc.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dc.com/ratings.

The Last Kryptonian-DCP

